

**Amendments to the Claims**

Please cancel Claims 1, 18 and 28. Please amend Claims 2-3, 5, 7-8, 10, 12-17, 19-20, 23-27 and 29-36. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

**Claim Listing**

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[1]] 12, wherein the portion of the data packet is a data payload that is to be decoded by a target receiver to which the data packet is directed.
3. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[1]] 12, wherein data packets include a data payload for a target receiver and a modulation rate of the data payload is selected from one of multiple possible rates.
4. (Original) A method as in claim 3, wherein the modulation rate of the data payload is selected depending on observed link quality parameters of the wireless communication system.
5. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[1]] 12 further comprising the step of:  
encoding bits of the data payload according to a selected forward error correction code, the forward error correction code for a given data packet being selected based on observed link quality parameters of the wireless communication system.
6. (Original) A method as in claim 5 further comprising the step of:  
providing information in the preamble of a data packet to indicate a forward error correction code of a corresponding data payload of the data packet.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[1]] 12, wherein the preamble includes address information indicating to which of multiple receivers a data packet is directed.
8. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[1]] 12 further comprising the step of:  
decoding a preamble of received data packet at a receiver to determine a target destination of the data packet.
9. (Original) A method as in claim 8 further comprising the step of:  
decoding a payload of a received data packet at a target receiver.
10. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[1]] 12, wherein the preamble indicates a spreading factor used in a transmission of the data payload.
11. (Original) A method as in claim 1 further comprising the step of:  
providing information in the preamble of a data packet to indicate which of multiple following time-slotted data packets are directed to a target receiver.
12. (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 1,~~ A method for communicating data to at least one of a plurality of receivers in a wireless communication system, the method comprising:  
allocating at least one channel of multiple available wireless channels to carry time-slotted data packets to a receiver on an as-needed basis;  
providing a preamble in a data packet, the preamble indicating a modulation type used in a transmission of a portion of the data packet  
wherein blocks of data at a transmitter of the wireless communication system are repackaged into smaller blocks that are transmitted over multiple channels in multiple time-slots, so that information in received data packets can be recombined at a target receiver.

13. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 12, wherein the channels are forward link channels between a base station and multiple receivers of a CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) communication system.
14. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 12 further comprising:  
modulating a preamble of a data packet at a different rate than a data payload portion of the data packet.
15. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 12 further comprising:  
at a target receiver, combining information received in multiple data packets to reconstruct a network message.
16. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 12 further comprising:  
assigning a time slot for use by a target receiver by transmitting a message over a dedicated channel for allocating use of wireless resources.
17. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 12 further comprising:  
at a target receiver, demodulating and decoding a data payload portion of a data packet received in an assigned time slot.
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 27, wherein a data payload is decoded according to a selected transmission rate.
20. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 27, wherein the data payload is modulated independently of the first portion of the data packet.
21. (Original) A method as in claim 20, wherein the data payload is transmitted at a different rate than the first portion of the data packet.

22. (Original) A method as in claim 21, wherein the first portion of a given data packet includes specific information that is used for decoding a payload of the corresponding data packet.
23. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[18]] 27, wherein a modulation rate of the data payload depends on observed link quality parameters of a channel upon which it is transmitted.
24. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[18]] 27 further comprising the step of:  
decoding bits of the data payload according to a selected forward error correction code, the forward error correction code for a given data packet being identified in the first portion of the corresponding data packet.
25. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[18]] 27, wherein the first portion of a data packet includes information indicating a spreading factor of a data payload.
26. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[18]] 27 further comprising the step of:  
recombining payloads of multiple data packets at a target receiver to reconstruct a network message that is forwarded to a processing device.
27. (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 18;~~ A method for receiving data packets on one or more shared channels in a wireless communication system, the method comprising:  
synchronizing a receiver to receive data packets transmitted in time-slots of at least one shared data channel;  
monitoring a first portion of a received data packet to determine to which receiver of multiple possible receivers sharing an assigned data channel a data packet is directed and a modulation type used in a transmission of a corresponding data payload of the data packet; and

decoding the data payload of the received data packet at a target receiver based on a modulation type as indicated in the first portion of the received data packet wherein the shared channels are forward link CDMA (code division multiple access) channels between a base station and multiple receivers.

28. (Cancelled)
29. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[28]] 32, wherein the at least one wireless channel is shared and the data packets are transmitted on an as-needed basis.
30. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[28]] 32, wherein the data packets from the base station are transmitted in time slots and the receivers are synchronized to receive data transmitted in the time slots.
31. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[28]] 32, wherein the shared channels are defined by pseudo-random noise codes of a CDMA (code division multiple access) communication system.
32. (Currently Amended) ~~A method as in claim 28,~~ A method of transmitting a data block from at least one base station to one of multiple receivers in a wireless communication system, the method comprising:
  - reducing the data block into smaller sub-blocks;
  - producing data packets by appending a header label to each sub-block, the header label of a sub-block indicating how to recapture a corresponding sub-block of a data packet at a receiver; and
  - at the base station, transmitting the data block via data packets to a target receiver over at least one wireless channel by modulating the sub-block of a data packet according to corresponding information in the header label of a data packet

wherein a data block is transmitted from a receiver to a base station over shared reverse link channels of a CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access) communication system.

33. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[28]] 32, wherein a header label includes information indicating a spreading factor of a corresponding sub-block of a data packet.
34. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[28]] 32, wherein a header label includes information indicating a forward error correction code of a corresponding sub-block of a data packet.
35. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[28]] 32, wherein a header label includes address information indicating to which of multiple receivers a data packet is directed.
36. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim [[28]] 32 further comprising the step of:  
combining the data packets at a target receiver to reproduce an original data block.